

REMARKS

Reconsideration is requested.

Claims 1-5 remain in this application for consideration.

Claims 1, 4 and 5 have been amended for increased clarity. Support can be found in the originally filed Specification. For example, paragraph [0024] on page 5 of the originally filed Specification states, in part, that "this contact [meaning a contact inducing a scraping action] is not necessary since a near-contact is generally sufficient to prevent the clogging of the toroidal screen 30". Paragraph [0027] on page 5 states, in part, that "The oblong shape of the apertures 46 thereby allow the adjustment of the scraper blade 42 to ensure an adequate cleaning of the rear toroidal screen 30." Thus, use of the term "cleaning" is clearly supported in the specification. The term "scraping" suggests physical contact, which is not the case if the blades are in a near-contact, but not in actual contact. Thus, the term "scraping" has been deleted to remove any unclarity.

Claims 1-5 stand rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-5 of U.S. Patent No. 6,736,054 as taken alone, or further in view of U.S. Patent No. 3,688,687 to Craig et al. Enclosed herewith is a Terminal Disclaimer which obviates the rejection.


Claims 6-23 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, as failing to comply with the written description requirement. Claims 6-23 have been canceled to reduce the number of issues under consideration.

The Examiner has objected to the drawings under 37 C.F.R. §1.83(a) as not showing every aspect of the invention specified in claims 6, 10, 11, 13, 14 and 22-23. With the cancellation of claims 6-23, it is believed that the Examiner's objections have been obviated. Approval of the drawings is therefore respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing, allowance of claims 1-5 is requested. The Examiner is requested to phone the undersigned in the event that the next Office Action is one other than a Notice of Allowance. The undersigned is available for telephone consultation at any time.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Jan. 26, 2005

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Attachment: Terminal Disclaimer